UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 5

DATE: February 13, 2002

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities

Ending on February 8, 2002

FROM: William E. Muno, Director

Superfund Division

TO: Thomas V. Skinner

Regional Administrator

David A. Ullrich

Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities, other significant developments, and training/conferences:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

<u>Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) Removal Action Completed,</u> Bennett Drum Site, Madison, Indiana

On January 31, 2002, United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Steve Renninger approved the final report showing that the Superfund removal action at the Bennett Drum Site was completed.

On March 5, 2001, the potentially responsible party (PRP) agreed to clean up the Bennett Drum Site under an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC). The time-critical removal began in April of 2001. The site is located in the town of Madison, Jefferson County, Indiana. The site consists of three parcels, which include the Bennett Storage area, the Bennett Marine Terminal, and the Bennett Old Glue Factory. Each parcel was part of the former Bennett Tow Boat Company.

The PRP spent over \$250,000 to complete the removal at the site and comply with the AOC. During the course of the removal action the PRP's contractor staged, packed, and removed the following from the Bennett Drum Site: twenty 85 gallon drums of product; 49 cubic yards of various waste; fifty 55-gallon drums filled

with various wastes, including paint, solvent, and other hazardous materials; numerous gas cylinders and empty 55 gallon drums; and, 180 tons of contaminated soil.

Contacts: Steve Renninger (515-569-7539)

Jim Morris (312-886-6632) William Ryczek (312-886-7184)

OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS

Public Meeting, Brownfields Assessment, Mansfield, Ohio

On February 5, 2002, Ross Powers attended a public meeting held by the City of Mansfield, Ohio, to discuss the Brownfields Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund grants. The grants provide for public meetings to invite community leaders, businesses, and local citizens to learn about the various aspects of the projects and to provide input. The meeting was well attended by the public and media in the Mansfield City Council Chambers.

The public learned that while the Brownfields Assessment grant is almost completed, the Revolving Loan grant was just recently awarded. The \$1,000,000 Revolving Loan funds are available as low-interest loans to local governments, non-profit organizations, and private businesses.

Contact: Ross Powers (734-692-7681)

TRAINING/CONFERENCES

Presentation, National Sediment Conference, Orlando, Florida

On February 7, 2002, Bill Muno made the opening presentation at a national sediment management seminar sponsored by Blasland, Bouck, and Lee in Orlando, Florida. Total attendance was around 150 participants, mainly potentially responsible parties (PRPs) and their attorneys associated with sediment sites. The opening presentation covered U.S. EPA's proposed 11 sediment management principles. The audience generally accepted the principles as a genuine effort to incorporated the March 2001 National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Sediment Report into the Superfund remedial process. Several questions were asked about how U.S. EPA will ensure consistency across all 10 Regions. In the audience was Professor Danny Reible from Louisiana State University (LSU) who was a member of the NAS Panel that produced the report. He

reacted very favorably to the 11 principles stating that if U.S. EPA can put them all into practice, he believes the major issues identified by the NAS Panel would be addressed.

Contact: Bill Muno (312-886-7578)

<u>Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III</u> <u>Workshop, Gwinn, Michigan</u>

On January 31, 2002, James Entzminger, Office of Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention, gave a presentation on modifications to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Regulations, and Compliance and Enforcement Initiatives to about 40 people. This presentation was part of the EPCRA awareness course offered by the Michigan State Emergency Response Commission. Mr. Entzminger also spoke to the group on the Self-Auditing and Self-Disclosure Policy as part of his presentation. The course was held in Gwinn, Michigan.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

cc: Marianne Horinko (OSWER)
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